

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 EB-08 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00
/096 W

-----030944 121251Z /47

R 120949Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7560

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2610

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK

SUBJ: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT

REF: STATE 141940

1. I MADE APPROACH OUTLINED IN REFTEL TO FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY HASHIM OSMAN THIS MORNING, JUNE 12. OMAR YOUSIF BARIDO, HEAD OF AFRICAN DEPARTMENT, WAS ALSO PRESENT. PRIOR TO MAKING APPROACH, I COORDINATED IT WITH MY BRITISH COLLEAGUE. VISITING UK MIN OF STATE ROWLINDS WILL BE SPEAKING ALONG SAME LINES TO SUDANGOV TODAY.

2. I CAREFULLY WENT THROUGH THE NINE TALKING POINTS AND LEFT BEHIND AN INFORMAL WRITTEN SUMMARY OF THEM.

3. IN REPLY, BOTH OSMAN AND BARIDO SAID THEY APPRECIATED EFFORTS US AND UK WERE MAKING. SUDAN SHARED WITH USG THE VIEW THAT MAJOR HOSTILITIES IN RHODESIA WOULD BE COSTLY AND BLOODY. MOREOVER, IT WOULD CREATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SOVIETS AND THE CUBANS TO INSTALL ANOTHER MASSIVE COMMUNIST PRESENCE IN AFRICA. SUDANESE FELT THAT TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE. SMITH WAS OBVIOUSLY USING DELAYING
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TACTICS. ALSO, THERE HAD BEEN SOME SKEPTICISM AMONG AFRICAN LEADERS AS A RESULT OF CERTAIN WESTERN PRESS ARTICLES WHICH APPEARED TO ENDORSE SMITH'S INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. SUDANESE BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL THAT US AND UK BE SEEN AS PUTTING INCREASING PRESSURE ON SMITH AND THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO ACCEPT ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE PROPOSAL. IF THIS IS DONE, SUDANESE BELIEVE OAU DURING JULY MEETINGS

WILL TAKE A FAIRLY MODERATE STANCE ON ZIMBABWI SITUATION.
I POINTED OUT THAT WHEN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS
WERE FIRST UNVEILED, SOME ARTICLES HAD APPEARED IN WESTERN
PRESS SUGGESTING THAT PROPOSALS BE GIVEN A TRY. SINCE THEN,
HOWEVER, UPON REFLECTION AND IN THE LIGHT OF SUBSEQUENT
DEVELOPMENTS IN ZIMBABWI, I BELIEVED THAT PUBLIC OPINION
SHARED USG VIEW THAT SO-CALLED SALISBURY AGREEMENT WAS
SERIOUSLY DEFECTIVE.
BERGUS

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